

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 12th JANUARY 2026

PRESENT	Ardmhéara Comhairleoir F. Dennehy.
NORTH EAST	Comhairleoirí J. Maher, J. Kavanagh, M. McDonnell, O. Moran, N. O'Flynn.
NORTH WEST	Comhairleoirí T. Fitzgerald, D. Boylan, J. Sheehan, M. Gould, K. Collins, B. McCarthy.
SOUTH EAST	Comhairleoirí T. Shannon, K. McCarthy, M.R. Desmond, D. Cahill, H. Kamegni, P. Horgan.
SOUTH CENTRAL	Comhairleoirí S. O'Callaghan, S. Martin, F. Kerins, P. Dineen, D. Boyle, N. O'Connor.
SOUTH WEST	Comhairleoirí C. Kelleher, J. Lynch, A. Deasy, T. Coleman, G. O'Brien, C. O'Connor.
ALSO PRESENT	Ms. V. O'Sullivan, Chief Executive. Mr. B. Geaney, Assistant Chief Executive. Mr. M. Davoren, A/Director of Services, Corporate, Community & Cultural Affairs. Mr. N. Murtagh, A/Director of Services, Local Area Development & Operations. Mr. C. O'Boyle, A/Director of Services, Planning & Integrated Development. Ms. A. O'Rourke, Director of Services, Housing. Mr. G. O'Beirne, Director of Services, Infrastructure Development. Mr. J. Hallahan, Head of Finance. Ms. N. Stewart, Meetings Administrator. Ms. R. Lynch, Administrative Officer, Corporate, Community & Cultural Affairs. Ms. V. Keating, Staff Officer, Corporate, Community & Cultural Affairs.

An tArdmhéara recited the opening prayer.

1. **VOTES OF SYMPATHY**

- The Quill family on the death of Máirín Quill.
- The O'Donovan family on the death of Sylvia O'Donovan.
- The Kane family on the death of William (Willie) Kane.
- The O'Leary family on the death of Flor O'Leary.
- The Coogan family on the death of Rose Coogan.
- The O'Leary family on the death of Mary O'Leary.
- The Hewitt family on the death of Richie Hewitt.
- The Ring family on the death of Aiden Ring.

- The Ryan family on the death of Michael Ryan.
- The O'Donovan family on the death of Tim (Timmy) O'Donovan.
- The Kenny family on the death of Pamela (Pam) Kenny.
- The Murphy family on the death of Patricia (Patsy) Murphy.
- The Riordan family on the death of Peggy (Margaret) Riordan.
- The O'Donovan family on the death of Donal (Don) O'Donovan.
- The Buckley family on the death of Mary Buckley.
- The Good family on the death of Renee Nicole Good.
- The Kitteringham family on the death of Pamela Kitteringham.
- The Deeney family on the death of Patricia Deeney.
- The O'Shea family on the death of Jessica O'Shea.
- The Volkov family on the death of Alex Volkov.
- The Bracken family on the death of Eileen Bracken.
- The Keating family on the death of Timothy Joseph Keating.
- The Mundow family on the death of Liam Mundow.
- The Shirkie family on the death of Mary Chrissie Shirkie.
- The Cronin family on the death of Breedra Cronin.
- The Hanley family on the death of Jim Hanley.
- The O'Reilly family on the death of Donie O'Reilly.
- The Kenneally family on the death of Michael (Mick) Kenneally.
- The Coughlan family on the death of Jeremiah (Jerry) Coughlan.
- The Collins family on the death of Bernadette Collins.
- The Burke family on the death of Thomas (Tom) Burke.
- The Kirk family on the death of Jane Kirk.
- The Drake family on the death of Mary Anne Drake.
- The Vaughan family on the death of Elizabeth (Betty) Vaughan.
- The Duke family on the death of Evelyn Duke.
- The Gosnell family on the death of Martha Gosnell.
- The Wolfe family on the death of Frances Wolfe.
- The Herbert family on the death of Jimmy Herbert.
- The O'Callaghan family on the death of John O'Callaghan.
- The Sproul family on the death of Sean Sproul.
- The McGrath family on the death of Ena McGrath.
- The Cohalan family on the death of Kathleen Cohalan.
- The O'Shea family on the death of Frank O'Shea.
- The Forde family on the death of Jean Forde.
- The Keane family on the death of Tom Keane.
- The O'Sullivan family on the death of Eleanor O'Sullivan.
- The O'Leary family on the death of Rose O'Leary.
- The Nagle family on the death of Alan Nagle.

2. VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS/BEST WISHES

- Coláiste an Spioraid Naoimh on winning first place in the Chemical, Physical and Mathematical Sciences Intermediate Group at the Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition.

- Trish McCarthy School of Modern Dance on holding their annual Christmas panto.
- Karina Lyne of Coláiste Choilm on winning the Educator of Excellence award at the Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition.
- St. Finbarr's Camogie Club on winning the Cork Senior County Championship, Munster title and reaching the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Final.
- Ballincollig Camogie Club on reaching the All-Ireland Intermediate Camogie Final.
- Coláiste an Spioraid Naoimh on winning second place in the Biological and Ecological Sciences Intermediate Group at the Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition.
- St. Michael's GFC on celebrating 75 years in existence.
- Ringmahon Rangers on celebrating 75 years in existence.
- FORAS Trust on fundraising for Field of Dreams with their limited-edition Sultans of Ping charity jersey.
- Mahon Tidy Towns on their fantastic performance in the latest Irish Business Against Litter survey, coming 18th nationally.

3. **LORD MAYOR'S ITEMS**

3.1 **CIVIC RECEPTION FOR TOM MYERS AND MICHAEL MALONE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the holding of a Civic Reception for Chief Superintendent Tom Myers and Commodore Michael Malone to mark their retirement and incredible contribution to Cork City.

3.2 **CIVIC RECEPTION FOR ST. FINBARR'S HURLING AND FOOTBALL CLUB**

An tArdmhéara reminded members that a Civic Reception for St. Finbarr's Hurling and Football Club would be held on 29th January 2026, and that location and time would be circulated to members.

3.3 **E&U WHO ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the travel of Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald to Viana do Castelo, Portugal, from 15th to 18th June 2026 for the E&U WHO Annual Business Meeting.

3.4 **LORD MAYOR'S DELEGATION TO SAN FRANCISCO AND NEW YORK**

An tArdmhéara sought expressions of interest for participation in the Lord Mayor's delegation to San Francisco and New York, 2nd to 8th March 2026.

3.5 **BEST WISHES TO COMHAIRLEOIR T. TYNAN**

An tArdmhéara extended best wishes to Comhairleoir T. Tynan and wished him a speedy recovery.

3.6 **NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS**

An tArdmhéara noted that the sod had been turned on two new developments at the Sextant and CMP sites which will deliver approximately 800 units to Cork City Council. An tArdmhéara congratulated and thanked the Chief Executive, the Assistant Chief Executive and staff on their work in this area.

4. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ITEMS**

None received.

5. **MINUTES**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Sheehan, An Chomhairle considered and approved the minutes of:-

- Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held, 8th December 2025.

6. **QUESTION TIME**

6.1 **GUS HEALY SWIMMING POOL**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir P. Horgan, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To ask the Chief Executive if she will agree for this Council to make a specific request for funding from Government Departments, the HSE and Swim Ireland for an expansion and upgrade of the Gus Healy Swimming Pool, which would include hydrotherapy, given the results of the Swim Gap Analysis by Swimming Ireland.

REPLY

Leisureworld and Cork City Council (Parks & Recreation Department) are currently preparing costed plans for the upgrading of the Gus Healy pool, including possible funding options. A report will be brought before the South East LAC meeting for consideration in the coming months.

Noel Murtagh,
A/Director of Services,
Local Area Development & Operations Directorate.

6.2 **GLASHABOY FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Can the CE please provide a current update on the progress and the status in terms of timeline of the Glashaboy Flood Relief Scheme in Glanmire, currently underway with Sorenson's.

REPLY

The Glashaboy Flood Relief Scheme was confirmed by the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation under the Arterial Drainage Acts 1945 and 1995 as amended. The scheme, when complete, will provide flood protection to some 103 properties; 78 residential properties and 25 commercial premises, and will address the flood risk in a number of locations in the Glanmire area. The proposed scheme is designed to provide protection against a 1 in 100-year fluvial flood event. The construction stage of the scheme commenced in July 2023. Works are ongoing across multiple locations in Glanmire, Riverstown and Sallybrook as part of the Glashaboy Flood Relief Scheme. The overall construction works are over 90% complete and the expected substantial completion date for the scheme construction is by Q2 2026.

Gerry O’Beirne,
Director of Services,
Infrastructure Development.

6.3 **CITY LIBRARY**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To ask the CE for an update on the regeneration of the City Library on the Grand Parade.

REPLY

The City Library Service is a key component of the cultural, literary, and recreational infrastructure of Cork City and it is an important element in the wider community now and into the future.

The commitment to providing a new City Library of scale and substance is one that is a priority for Cork City Council.

Work is ongoing to make this happen and further updates will be provided as this matter progresses.

Rebecca Loughry,
Director of Services,
Corporate, Community & Cultural Affairs.

6.4 **LARGE SCALE DEVELOPMENT IN BALLINCOLLIG-SOUTH MAGLIN**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir J. Lynch, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To ask the CE - given the number of large-scale residential developments constructed, under construction and planned in the Ballincollig South/Maglin Urban Expansion Area - what work is being undertaken to deliver community facilities to serve these

new residential developments e.g. the provision of a community centre, medical facilities and educational facilities; and to itemise what work is being undertaken to bring land in the area zoned for use as public open space (ZO 15) into active use for recreational/sporting activities.

REPLY

The Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 sets out that development in South Ballincollig / Maglin shall be coordinated, phased and incorporate a mix of uses that form part of an emerging neighbourhood integrated with the wider area. Apart from residential uses, lands in this area are zoned specifically for education, town centre and public open space purposes. Recent large-scale residential development permitted in the area includes complementary non-residential uses such as creches, commercial / retail uses and open space. There is also an existing range of childcare, community, medical and retail services in the wider Ballincollig area.

Cork City Council liaises regularly with the Department of Education and Youth in relation to future school provision in this area. Cork City Council endeavours to develop and support community amenities based on emerging needs, often informed by population data. The Community team works collaboratively with established and emerging communities, following a community development methodology, to establish the need for community centres, amenities and services. This process builds the necessary capacity within communities to account for the capital investment in, and governance and maintenance of, community facilities. Experience has shown that this approach leads to sustainable and lasting partnership-based community facilities, specific to each local community. While Cork City Council remains committed to supporting community development which is well-resourced and where community groups and residents can access the services and facilities they need, this outcome is pursued over the course of continuous community engagement as new residential areas evolve.

Similarly, the requirement for medical facilities will be assessed by service providers as new communities develop. The zoning regime is flexible and facilitates medical uses across residential and town centre-zoned lands.

Much of the public open space-zoned lands in this area reflect lands susceptible to potential flooding. The City Development Plan specifies that public open space zoning comprises a wide range of land including passive recreation, natural areas and habitats. The development of active recreation and sporting activities in this area will be subject to future demand, resources and land ownership.

These matters will be considered further during the formal review of the current City Development Plan.

Niall Ó Donnabháin,
Director of Services,
Planning & Integrated Development Directorate.

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir N. O'Flynn, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Can the director of housing advise what plans are in place to improve the quality of housing in Roches' buildings and Sutton's buildings. The upgrading of velux windows, doors, windows, toilets, heating and insulation in these old houses is essential for the comfort of mainly elderly residents living in this historic housing scheme.

REPLY

Cork City Council has begun a programme to address issues around rain water protection in Roches Buildings dealing initially with guttering and down pipes. Any outstanding issues around roof and velux leaks will also be addressed as part of this programme. A similar programme will be progressed for Suttons Buildings in early 2026.

Cork City Council is progressing energy upgrades to its social housing stock under the Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage. The programme provides funding for properties to be upgraded to a B2 energy rating with a set maximum funding available per property. The areas to be included in the programme for 2026 are now progressing through detailed design and construction stages. Noting the architectural heritage and specific building fabric of Roches and Suttons Buildings, over the coming months Cork City Council will be progressing a preliminary assessment to identify the appropriate route to energy upgrade of these buildings.

Alison O'Rourke,
Director of Services,
Housing Directorate.

6.6 NORTHERN DISTRIBUTOR ROAD

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir K. Collins, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Can the CE outline how the Northern Distributor Road will complement and not hinder the full development of the North West Regional Park.

REPLY

The Cork Northern Distributor Road will play a pivotal role in the sustainable development of Cork City, acting as a key enabler of growth—particularly in the northern part of the city. Its strategic importance was first identified in the *Cork Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy (2020)* and was reaffirmed by its recent inclusion in the Sectoral Investment Plan for Transport under the *National Development Plan*.

The need for a new park in the north west of the city was first identified in *Cork County Council's Cobh Local Area Plan 2017*. Following the City Council boundary

extension this objective was further reviewed and it was concluded that, with the benefit of improved access from the Northern Distributor Road and in light of the scale of planned population growth, there was an opportunity for a larger scale regional park which could provide an enhanced range of facilities and serve a wider catchment. As a result, the scope and ambition for the proposed park was expanded from a local city park to a more significant regional park of similar scale to Ballincollig Regional Park. The proposed park would therefore provide enhanced recreational facilities for the existing and future communities in the immediate area and within the wider city environs. This more ambitious approach was adopted by Members the 2022 City Development Plan.

The North West Regional Park, as now planned, is dependent on the Cork Northern Distributor Road. The scope/scale of the facility envisaged in the Development Plan is feasible/ viable because of the improved multimodal access provided by the Distributor Road and with the benefit of an expanding population catchment. In addition, the roadway supports the development of a diverse range of recreational uses in different areas consistent with the differing topographical characteristics north and south of its alignment.

The two planned projects are of significant scale and importance and they have the potential to be transformative for the northern part of Cork City, requiring state investment in the region of €300–€500 million. The projects are at the design stage and continued support from all stakeholders including the community, Council members, state agencies, and government will be essential to bring them to fruition. Members will be kept apprised of ongoing progress in the development of these schemes.

Gerry O’Beirne,
Director of Services,
Infrastructure Development.

6.7 **HOUSING – 2025**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir M. Gould, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

How many social, affordable and cost rental properties did Cork City Council deliver and allocate in 2025 and how does this compare to both the council and the government targets for this period and outline how many new applications were accepted onto the social housing list in 2025.

REPLY

The Housing Directorate is currently in the process of collating finalised completion data for Quarter 4 2025 for submission to the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage (DHLGH) to confirm and verify the total delivery for the year 2025. It would be premature at this point to provide finalised figures to Council prior to this verification and publication of these figures by the DHLGH. A full report on social and affordable housing delivery and allocations in 2025 will be provided to the elected members once this process completes.

Number of New Households Approved for Social Housing Supports in 2025:

766 households

This excludes applicants qualified for HAP only, Mortgage to Rent and private rightsizers.

Alison O'Rourke,
Director of Services,
Housing Directorate.

6.8 OUT OF SERVICE TRAFFIC SIGNS

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir A. Deasy, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Can the Chief Executive provide a report on out-of-service traffic safety signs in Cork City Council area, including:

- Locations of non-functional electronic/solar flashing amber school beacons, periodic LED speed limit signs, and driver feedback signs;
- Non-payroll costs to repair or replace them; and
- Approved or pending sites for new installations, with estimated completion costs?

REPLY

Traffic Operations have not installed and are not aware of any periodic LED speed limit signs within the Cork City Council area. While there are a number of periodic speed limits across the city in particularly in the vicinity of schools, these are static signs and none of these have LED speed limit signs.

The LED variable speed flashing signs are relatively new and are being proposed as part of the National Speed Limit review for proposed periodic speed limits at schools that is due to be implemented in 2027.

In relation to Driver Feedback signs, there is a maintenance contract in place since mid 2025 to carry out routine maintenance on all signs and deal with any non-functioning signs as we are made aware of them. Currently there are 2 reported out of order signs which are due to be replaced shortly. If there are further signs that need attention please forward details to trafficrequests@corkcity.ie. The cost of repair of a sign varies greatly from €200 to replace a circuit breaker to €5000 excl. VAT to supply and install a replacement sign.

There are over 100 driver feedback signs currently in place citywide and due to the high maintenance requirement on such signs, there is no capacity to increase the

signage stock across the city currently as there is a very limited budget available for maintenance. However, these signs are moveable and can be relocated as various infrastructure and traffic calming schemes are implemented.

The ITS Section of Traffic Operations also maintain school warning signs under an existing maintenance contract. In 2024, a small number of faults were brought to the attention of the Section and were addressed in accordance with established maintenance procedures. As part of routine asset management, an annual inspection programme is currently being undertaken by the maintenance contractor. Inspections completed to date have not identified any outstanding operational issues. Any minor defects identified during inspection are rectified at the time where possible or otherwise logged for follow up as required. At present, there are no unresolved faults recorded on the system. If any issues are identified they can be reported to ITS@corkecity.ie

Noel Murtagh,
A/Director of Services,
Local Area Development & Operations Directorate.

6.9 **ENNISMORE, MONTENOTTE**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir O. Moran, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To ask the Chief Executive if Cork City Council has continued engagement with the owner of Ennismore in Montenotte with regards to the provision of a public park on these lands, as set out as being an objective in the city development plan; and if there has been any further progress since the answer to the question to the Chief Executive on this matter in January 2023?

REPLY

The City Council is strongly committed to fostering public amenity spaces and advancing sustainable place making. It is actively engaging with relevant stakeholders regarding the future use of lands at Ennismore, Montenotte and remains focused on ensuring that the creation of a public park is a central element in any future plans, subject to the availability of the necessary financial resources.

Brian Geaney,
Assistant Chief Executive.

6.10 **CAPITAL PROJECTS IN CORK CITY FROM 2019 TO DATE**

The following question submitted by Comhairleoir J. Maher was deferred to the next meeting of An Chomhairle to be held, 9th February 2026:-

To ask the Chief Executive for a list of government capital projects delivered in Cork City from 2019 to present date, cost of each project and the names of such projects that applied for the 1% arts scheme & an inventory of artwork delivered, in tabular form?

6.11 **TRAFFIC INCIDENTS ON N40/SOUTHERN RING ROAD**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir D. Boyle, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To ask Chief Executive to provide the most recently available annual figures for road traffic incidents on the N40/Southern Ring Road, noting whether there has been an increase in such incidents, and the extent to which this Council's emergency services have been called upon to respond to such incidents?

REPLY

Data held by Cork City Fire Brigade refers only to incidents where the brigade was mobilised. A more accurate figure may be available from An Garda Siochana or TII.

The most recent annual figures Cork City Fire Brigade have relates to 2025, and during that year, Cork City Fire Brigade responded to 16 road traffic incidents along the South Ring Road (N40). The figure 16 above represents incidents within the extent of the N40 from Dunkettle to Curraheen and are only for road traffic incidents on the N40 / Southern Ring Road.

Noel Murtagh,
A/Director of Services,
Local Area Development & Operations Directorate.

6.12 **TOILETS AT MARINA PARK**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir N. O'Connor, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the opening of the toilets at Marina Park.

REPLY

Cork City Council is concluding contractual arrangements to enable those public toilet facilities to become operational in the coming weeks.

Niall Ó Donnabháin,
Director of Services,
Planning & Integrated Development Directorate.

Noel Murtagh,
Director of Services,
Local Area Development & Operations.

6.13 **CORK CITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir J. Sheehan, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To ask the CE to outline the process for considering the modification of the Cork City Development Plan in view of the large number of submissions received.

REPLY

Since July 2025, Cork City Council has been working to apply the requirements of the section 28 guidelines for planning authorities on “NPF Implementation: Housing Growth Requirements” published by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. These guidelines set housing growth targets for each local authority to 2040, and requested all local authorities to zone additional lands, by way of variation of development plans, for the short-term delivery of housing in accordance with these targets. Before deciding on which lands to recommend for rezoning, Cork City Council sought to gauge market interest in short-term housing delivery on appropriate lands by means of a non-statutory consultation (in this context, short-term means within 5 years). Landowners, developers and other interested parties were invited to make submissions on potentially suitable, serviced or serviceable lands in appropriate locations that meets the requirements of the guidelines.

The consultation ran for six weeks between 30th September and 10th November 2025. 115 submissions were received, collectively proposing an amount of land far exceeding that required under the guidelines.

The Planning and Integrated Development team is currently assessing and analysing all submissions received against the criteria of the guidelines and good planning practice to best inform Councillors of the executive’s recommended approach to the variation to follow. Independent of the consultation, the Planning team has also been investigating other potentially suitable sites for rezoning, which will be factored into the overall assessment and analysis. As advised previously the Planning team has also been reviewing the existing rural housing policy within the City Development Plan and a separate workshop will be organised in January to brief Councillors in this regard. Environmental and flood risk assessments are required under planning law and will commence early in January in relation to all of these matters.

The intention of the above is to coalesce these strands into a single proposed variation to the Cork City Development Plan in Q1 2026. Once the above analysis is complete, the Elected Members of Council will be full briefed and consulted with on the non-statutory consultation, the proposals for rezoning additional residential lands and the rural housing policy review. These engagements will commence in January and Councillors will be notified of the dates very shortly. A combination of a full Council briefing with associated meetings will be utilised as the most effective and efficient means of garnering Councillor input to this important process.

Niall Ó Donnabháin,
Director of Services,
Planning & Integrated Development Directorate.

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir H. Kamegni, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To ask the Chief Executive to address the status of taking in charge Mount Oval, to outline progress to date, and the time it will take to take the estate in charge.

REPLY

For any estate to be taken in charge by Cork City Council all services must be certified as being complete to the standard specified by Cork City Council e.g., Uisce Eireann Foul and Potable Network; Roads & Footpaths; Public Lighting; Surface Water; Parks. In addition any required wayleaves need to be put in place. This process commences once a developer confirms all works are complete. Various Directorates and Sections within Cork City Council undertake inspections and refer any defects to the developer to address. This process can continue over an extended period.

In relation to Mount Oval, the inspection process has commenced, some required works have been identified and additional inspections are to take place. It is difficult to specify a timeline for the taking in charge as it is reliant on actions of Uisce Eireann & the developer but the process is underway and the Council is committed to completing the Taking in Charge of Mount Oval as expeditiously as possible.

Niall Ó Donnabháin,
Director of Services,
Planning & Integrated Development Directorate.

6.15 **SOCIAL HOUSING APPLICATIONS**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir C. O'Connor, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Can the Chief Executive provide the following information in tabular format for 2023, 2024 and 2025 (to date) in relation to social housing applications in Cork City:

- Number of applications deemed ineligible, including a breakdown of primary reasons for ineligibility (with specific reference to income thresholds)
- Number of applicants who presented to homeless services while awaiting a housing decision

REPLY

The table below shows the number of applications recorded on the iHouse System as closing with the reason recorded as "Ineligible – Income" during the period specified:

Year	Number of Applications Closed - Ineligible - Income
2023	57
2024	50
2025	53

An assessment of need under Section 2 of the 1988 Housing Act is focussed on whether an individual or family has access to accommodation. Their social housing application status is not applicable to this assessment, therefore a social housing application which is still in progress does not impact the outcome of whether an individual or family are deemed as having a need for emergency accommodation. As a result, we do not hold any dataset on the number of applicants who presented to homeless services while awaiting a housing decision.

Alison O'Rourke,
Director of Services,
Housing Directorate.

7. **STATUTORY ITEMS**

7.1 **PROPERTY DISPOSALS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the reports of the Chief Executive, dated 31st December 2025 on the following property disposals:-

1. Disposal of the superior leasehold interest in the land situated at Innishmore, Ballincollig, Cork, to Castlepeak Properties Limited, c/o Ronan Daly Jermyn LLP, 85 South Mall, Cork for the sum of €12,000 plus costs of €1,500.00, plus VAT.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir C. Kelleher, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Lynch, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.

2. Disposal of the freehold interest in property known as "Inchigaggin House", Inchigaggin Lane, Model Farm Road, Cork, being approximately 2.35 acres of land to John Casey, c/o Orbitus Law LLP, Penrose Wharf, Alfred Street, Cork for the sum of €525,000.00 (exclusive of VAT).

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir H. Kamegni, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.

7.2 **ARTS GRANTS 2026**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh, An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate, Community & Cultural Affairs, dated 10th December 2025 on the Arts Grants 2026.

7.3 **VACANCIES ON BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir D. Boylan, An Chomhairle considered and approved the nomination of Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh to the Association of Irish Local Government following the resignation of Comhairleoir S. O' Callaghan.

8. **CORPORATE POLICY GROUP – 5th JANUARY 2026**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group from its meeting held, 5th January 2026.

8.1 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO 30/11/2025**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Financial Statement to 30/11/2025.

9. **TRANSPORT & MOBILITY STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE / COISTE BEARTAIS STRAITÉISIGH - IOMPAR & SOGHLUAISTEACHT – SPECIAL MEETING 25th NOVEMBER 2025**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Transport & Mobility Strategic Policy Committee from its special meeting held, 25th November 2025.

10. **TRANSPORT & MOBILITY STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE / COISTE BEARTAIS STRAITÉISIGH - IOMPAR & SOGHLUAISTEACHT – 15th DECEMBER 2025**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Transport & Mobility Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 15th December 2025.

10.1 **MOTIONS**

10.1.1 **REVIEW OF TRAFFIC LIGHTS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Infrastructure Development, and A/Director of Services, Local Area Development & Operations, dated 9th December 2025 on the following motion:-

‘To mark World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims on the third Sunday in November, to reflect that cyclists have priority over turning vehicles when travelling straight through junctions, and to be consistent with the example of Dublin City Council, that Cork City Council will review its traffic lights to include flashing amber arrows for left-turning vehicles at junctions, and to synchronise the timing of both general and bike-specific traffic lights so that cycling may continue for the full time that general traffic lights are green, including specifically for eastbound movement from Parnell Bridge to Eamon de Valera Bridge along Albert Quay, and for westbound movement from Brian Boru Bridge to Christy Ring Bridge along Saint Patrick’s Quay and Camden Place.’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Kamegni 25/521)

The report of the Directors of Services stated that as new active travel schemes are funded by the NTA, the design process will consider the relevant guidance and recent circulars as part of the overall design methodology in support of sustainable transport.

The consideration of specific cycle heads will be considered in newly designed junctions in the context of site suitability, the future implementation of Bus Connects/abortive works and overall priorities for the scheme delivery.

An Chomhairle further agreed to refer the motion back to the Transport & Mobility Strategic Policy Committee for further consideration.

10.1.2 **FLASHING TRAFFIC CALMING SIGNS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the A/Director of Services, Local Area Development & Operations, dated 9th December 2025 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council carries out an assessment of flashing traffic calming signs across our city and repairs those that are broken.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Maher 25/533)

The report of the Director of Services stated that there are over 100 Driver Feedback Signs across the city. There is a maintenance contract in place for the maintenance and repair of these signs and over the next two years, routine maintenance will be carried out on all signs. If there are signs at specific locations that require repair, these can be submitted to trafficrequests@corkcity.ie and the requests will be referred to the maintenance contractor.

10.1.3 **EMERGENCY MOTION ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN CORK CITY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Infrastructure Development, dated 9th December 2025 on the following motion:-

‘The Workers Party, as a matter of urgency, calls on Cork City Council to summon a meeting of local NTA Management and Union Representatives to discuss the current operations of Cork City’s Public Transport System and to raise the issue of passenger safety, particularly in relation to the safe and secure transportation of children, minors, the elderly, infirm, and disabled — in other words, the most vulnerable groups in society.

Furthermore, we call for the introduction of a code of conduct that will ensure, going forward, the safe transportation of such vulnerable groups and individuals and guarantees they complete their journey in full and are conveyed to their destination in the same vehicle: that all city service routes be operated and fulfilled in this manner, without exception. That this be an embedded priority throughout the city’s public transport system, even if it means occasional disruption to the bus timetables.

Such a code of conduct encompasses the recognition that public transport, as originally defined and conceived under C oras Iompair  ireann, is primarily a social service for the benefit of all in society.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Tynan 25/541)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the action requested by this motion falls outside the remit of the Local Authorities. However, this can be forwarded to the NTA and other service providers for their attention if approved by Committee.

10.1.4 **YIELD SIGNS FOR PEDAL CYCLISTS, ELECTRIC SCOOTERS AND MOPEDS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the A/Director of Services, Local Area Development & Operations, dated 9th December 2025 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will trial the provision of yield signs for pedal cyclists, electric scooter users and e-moped drivers at traffic lights in the city, as provided for by the Road Traffic (Traffic and Parking) Regulations 2025, SI No. 473 of 2025.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 25/569)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the priority of the Operations Directorate is to maintain the current line marking inventory and bring the standard of existing degraded road markings to an acceptable level based on current resources and available funding. As new Active Travel schemes are designed in 2026, the contents of Road Traffic (Traffic and Parking) Regulations 2025, SI No. 473 of 2025 will be considered as a tool for implementation where suitable sites are identified. The provision of a zebra crossing with line marking RPC 005 (parallel zebra crossing across the roadway) necessitates all vehicles and pedal cyclists, electric scooter users and e-moped drivers to yield to pedestrians when approaching the line markings. As pedal cyclists, electric scooter users and e-moped drivers are not allowed to travel on a public footpath, they should be dismounted when using a zebra crossing with pedestrians.

10.1.5 **REVIEW CAR-PARKING POLICIES TO PROMOTE ELECTRIC VEHICLES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the A/Director of Services, Local Area Development & Operations, dated 9th December 2025 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will comprehensively review its car-parking policies to promote electric vehicles (EVs), including identification of specific EV parking spaces in prominent locations, such as the Marina Promenade, lower parking costs, including free parking at the park and ride, will recognise the new EV green flash number plates as red tape-free verification, will retrofit its own EVs with green flash number plates, will engage with stakeholders, including shopping centres, supermarkets and private car parks, to match these EV incentives, and will make it easy for people without private car-parking spaces to access road-opening licences for charging gullies through footpaths for convenient, low-cost home charging’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Kamegni 25/580)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council’s current parking policy has been informed by the Cork Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy (CMATS) which aims to promote greater accessibility by walking, cycling and public transport use. CMATS core principles with respect to parking management include:

- Ensuring a quick turnover of spaces within the city centre; and
- Discourage commuter parking within residential areas around the periphery of the city/town centre

CMATS is scheduled for an update by the National Transport Authority during 2026 and there will be an opportunity to investigate alternative parking management measures to promote a greater uptake in the purchase of electric vehicles at this stage. Any changes in parking policy will need to consider the wider objectives emanating from the review in terms of promoting active and sustainable transport options in the wider city.

With respect to the provision of cross pavement gullies to support private residents charging their electric vehicle on the public road, Cork City Council are actively engaging with Zero Emission Vehicles Ireland with respect to the possibility of delivering a pilot project in response to a presentation recently delivered to the Environment, Water & Amenity Strategic Policy Committee by the Newton Court Sustainable Energy Community.

There are legal issues with respect to the routing of a private cable in the public domain (either temporarily or permanently) as they are currently not permitted in Ireland due to the definition of “private wires” under section 37 of the Electricity Regulation Act 1999. However, the Government published during the summer a Private Wires Policy Statement which will allow private wires to be delivered under a limited number of circumstances, including for the on-street charging of electric vehicles. To support this policy statement the Government is to bring primary legislation and supporting regulations before the Oireachtas to allow for the construction of such private wires, this planned for Q3 of 2026. In the meantime, Cork City Council will continue to liaise with ZEVI with respect to the delivery of the pilot project in the interim before the publication of the updated legislation.

10.1.6 **SURVEY ON WALKING AND CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Infrastructure Development, dated 9th December 2025 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will pursue a workshop or other suitable event/series of events to survey Cork City residents on their experience of walking and cycling in the city in a similar way to the recent “Masterplan for walking” Limerick City and County Council initiative and use the data gleaned to guide decisions on walking and cycling infrastructure going forward.’

(Proposer: Cllr. N. O’Connor 25/583)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Walking and Cycling Index 2025 for the Cork Metropolitan Area is due to be published by the NTA in early 2026. The report is delivered by Walk Wheel Cycle Trust (formerly Sustrans) in collaboration with Cork City Council. The data in the report comes from 2025 and will include local walking, wheeling and cycling data, modelling and an independent survey of

residents that was conducted from April to August 2025. Members will be notified of the details of the report when it issues.

10.1.7 **CITY STRATEGY ON WALKING**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Emergency Management & Climate Action, dated 9th December 2025 on the following motion:-

‘That this Council organise community engagement meetings with the intention of creating a city strategy on walking as the encouraged and supported mode of transport.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 25/586)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council, in collaboration with Get Ireland Walking and Cork Sports Partnership, hosted the “Get Cork Walking” Workshop in February 2025.

This strategic event brought together a diverse range of stakeholders, including representatives from the HSE, Green Schools, Healthy Ireland, and local community groups. The workshop served as a platform for discussion, knowledge sharing, and joint planning to advance walking as a core component of active living in Cork City.

The primary focus of the workshop was to explore how organisations can work collectively to develop a systems-based approach to walking promotion. This approach aims to integrate walking into everyday life by addressing barriers, enhancing infrastructure, and creating supportive environments that encourage participation across all age groups and abilities.

Stakeholders expressed a strong commitment to:

- Promoting a culture of walking as a normal, enjoyable, and sustainable daily activity.
- Ensuring accessibility and inclusivity, so that walking opportunities are available to everyone, regardless of ability, background, or location.
- Collaborating across sectors to align policies, resources, and community initiatives for maximum impact.

This initiative reflects Cork City Council’s ongoing dedication to improving public health, reducing carbon emissions, and fostering vibrant, connected communities. By working together, these organisations aim to make Cork a leading example of an active city where walking is safe, convenient, and valued.

10.1.8 **DUNKETTLE TRAFFIC APP**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Local Area Development & Operations, dated 11th June 2025 on the following motion:-

‘That this Council will seek the costings to adopt the operation of the Dunkettle traffic app to ensure the camera feeds on the app are restarted and maintained in our own roads CCTV ecosystem with funding streams from the Department of Transport, Transport Infrastructure Ireland and the National Transport Authority, to offset the cost to the Local Authority.’

(Proposer: Cllr. P. Horgan 25/167)

The report of the Director of Services stated that An Garda Síochána have got an independent CCTV system located around the city centre to monitor and react to incidents, events and anti-social behaviour.

On-duty Gardaí monitor CCTV feeds as well as emergency calls and all information being fed into their network which allows a more efficient deployment of resources on the ground.

This CCTV is separate and not a shared system with Cork City Council for GDPR reasons. The Gardaí carry out speed monitoring using static and mobile speed cameras, to detect and issue penalty points for speeding and other driving offences. Any expansion of the current Garda CCTV system in public spaces would require permission under section 27 of the Garda Síochána (Recording Devices) Act 2023. This involves the Garda Commissioner authorising the installation and operation of CCTV for a) the prevention, investigation, detection or prosecution of criminal offences, b) safeguarding against and the prevention of threats to public security, including securing public safety and public order, c) the protection of the security of the state.

Any specific request for additional CCTV coverage should be discussed at the Joint Policing Committee (JPC) who would have a remit in this area and dependent on the CCTV monitoring purpose and the identification of specific sites for consideration, either the Gardaí or Local Authority must apply in writing to the Garda Commissioner for authorisation for the installation/operation of any new cameras for the purposes of the detection of criminal offences and commence compliance to the aforementioned act.

10.1.9 **HGV RESTRICTION FOR LOWER KENT ROAD**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Local Area Development & Operations, dated 20th November 2025 on the following motion:-

‘That Lower Kent Road become restricted for the movement of Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs) and that signage be put in place to reflect such a restriction.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 25/359)

The report of the Director of Services stated that any proposed ban of heavy vehicles cannot be considered as a solution for one street only but a city-wide approach and the impacts of same on businesses and the operation of the city would need careful

consideration. Such a proposal could only be considered in the context of CMATS and / or a HGV Movement Strategy.

10.1.10 **LOWER KENT ROAD**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Local Area Development & Operations, dated 20th November 2025 on the following motion:-

‘That this Council engage with the residents of lower Kent Road, Ballyphehane who have witnessed increased levels of traffic using the road due to many factors in the area including changes to the junction at Curragh Road. The proposed developments at the former Vita Cortex and CMP sites will no doubt exacerbate the situation and a traffic management plan needs to be put in place. This must include signage and traffic calming measures.’

(Proposer: Cllr. F. Kerins 25/367)

The report of the Director of Services stated that traffic calming ramps have been in place on Lower Kent Road for a number of years. Two out of the three ramps were replaced in 2024 due to deterioration. Ramp ahead signs and a Children at Play sign are also in place.

There is a National Speed Limit Review currently being rolled out. The first stage of this was the reduction of the default speed limit on Rural Local Roads from 80 km/hr to 60 km/hr on the 7th February of this year.

The second stage of the National Speed Limit Review will look at reducing speed limits in Urban areas from 50 km/hr to 30 km/hr, however we are still awaiting guidance from the Department in relation to this. Lower Kent Road can be considered for a reduced speed limit as part of this review.

The October 2025 update on request for traffic management plan during and after completion of development stated that during the construction phase of any development, where the use of any public road is required, the contractor shall submit a construction traffic management plan outlining any temporary traffic management plans required for the development. This is immediately prior to commencement of the developments.

In relation to traffic management for completed developments, the Cork Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy is the overall transport plan for the Cork Metropolitan Area. CMATS represents a coordinated land use and transport strategy for the Cork Metropolitan Area to cover the period up to 2040. One of the objectives of CMATS is to increase uptake of active travel and sustainable modes of transport through the provision of infrastructure which will have the result of reducing the number of private vehicles in the city in the long term. BusConnects forms part of the strategy which looks at the overall city in terms of the enhancement of bus services. As part of BusConnects, Kinsale Road forms part of the Cork City South East Sustainable Transport Corridors Scheme where major improvements to the route and bus services will be rolled out to minimise reliance on the private car in this area.

In relation to the review of urban speed limits, the Department of Transport issued guidance on the 16th October 2025 with regard to the implementation of 30 km/hr speed limits in urban areas with a view to having the changes implemented by the 31st March 2027.

The updated response in relation to the request for a defined area plan for the area in the vicinity of Lower Kent Road stated that Kent Road is in an established residential suburb developed around the middle of the last century. While there are a number of sites being developed in the area, this is true for many parts of the city. The City Development Plan provides a land-use planning framework for this area and there is no real benefit in preparing an additional planning led area plan for this area. In the longer term, the wider surrounding area has regeneration potential and the Cork City Development Plan makes reference to a potential future strategy for the area.

The particular matters raised by Members in the motions in relation to HGVs and traffic management fall under the wider transport strategy CMATS for the Cork Metropolitan Area. As outlined previously, the Cork Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy is the overall transport plan for the Cork Metropolitan Area. CMATS represents a coordinated land use and transport strategy for the Cork Metropolitan Area to cover the period up to 2040. One of the objectives of CMATS is to increase uptake of active travel and sustainable modes of transport through the provision of infrastructure which will have the result of reducing the number of private vehicles in the city in the long term. BusConnects forms part of the strategy which looks at the overall city in terms of the enhancement of bus services. As part of BusConnects, Kinsale Road forms part of the Cork City South East Sustainable Transport Corridors Scheme where major improvements to the route and bus services will be rolled out to minimise reliance on the private car in this area.

11. **STRATEGIC, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENTERPRISE & PLANNING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE / COISTE BEARTAIS STRAITÉISIGH - STRAITÉISEACHT, FORBAIRT EACNAMAÍOCH, FIONTAR & PLEANÁIL – 15th DECEMBER 2025**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Strategic, Economic Development, Enterprise & Planning Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 15th December 2025.

11.1 **MOTIONS**

11.1.1 **ENSURING RESPONSIBLE PLANNING FOR GAMING AND AMUSEMENT DEVELOPMENTS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Planning and Integrated Development, dated 15th December 2025 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council notes with dismay and concern the recent decision by An Coimisiún Pleanála to approve a gaming arcade at Westside Retail Park, Ballincollig, and expresses concern about the potential social and community impacts of such

developments, particularly near schools, family-oriented retail outlets, and residential areas.

Council further notes that while the Cork City Development Plan 2022–2028 recognises commercial leisure uses, it contains no specific policies addressing the location, concentration, or social impacts of gaming arcades or casino-type uses.

Accordingly, Council calls for:

- A review of planning policy to develop clearer criteria and controls for such uses;
- Integration of these considerations into the next Cork City Development Plan and
- A report from the Chief Executive outlining how planning enforcement can be strengthened to ensure compliance.

Council reaffirms its commitment to protecting community wellbeing, public health, and social cohesion in all planning decisions.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. O’Connor 25/578)

The report of the Director of Services stated that paragraphs 11.191 and 11.192 of the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 address amusement centres and arcades, and casinos and private members’ clubs, respectively. These paragraphs set parameters that must be considered when assessing development proposals for such uses, including hours of operation, impact on amenities and adjoining properties, and concentration of such uses. This matter will be kept under review as part of the next City Development Plan.

The Planning & Development Act 2000, as amended, prescribes the enforcement proceedings that a local authority may take in the case where there is alleged unauthorised development. When the Planning Authority becomes aware of any alleged unauthorised development the prescribed steps are implemented.

11.1.2 **CONTRACTORS BREACHING CONDITIONS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Planning and Integrated Development, dated 15th December 2025 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council would ensure that contractors would adhere to the time including the rules and regulations around works being carried out. Currently contractors are breaching these conditions, and they are failing to communicate with local residents which in turn is creating anger and frustration in local communities.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Gould 25/600)

The report of the Director of Services stated that planning permissions that involve significant development normally contain a condition that requires a developer to submit a Traffic Management Plan (TMP). This TMP is assessed by and agreed by Traffic Operations. Any reported breaches of the conditions of a TMP are investigated

by the Planning Enforcement Team. Experience to date has shown that engagement with the developer addresses most issues. Any unresolved issues may be addressed by undertaking enforcement proceedings.

Where the works are not associated with a grant of planning permission, and there is a persistent issue with a contractor operating outside of permitted hours, again, experience to date has shown that consistent engagement with the developer will resolve most issues once it is brought to the attention of Traffic Operations. Any repeated breaches will be recorded and taken into account when setting conditions for future works.

11.1.3 **DEVELOPMENT CHARGES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Planning and Integrated Development, dated 15th December 2025 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council exempt voluntary sporting development from development charges. This is farcical. Cork City Council gives grants to sporting organisations on an annual basis from the sports committee. The Council also contributes in relation to long term leases and the sports partnership. The benefits of sport to community are well documented. This needs to be corrected immediately.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 25/613)

The report of the Director of Services stated that development contributions are attached to a grant of planning permission in accordance with the General & Supplementary Development Contributions Schemes 2023-2029, which were adopted by Council on 13th February 2023. The Council applies a number of exemptions or percentage reductions in respect of particular categories of development. These are set out in Table 5, under section 1.5 of the General Contribution Scheme. The provision of facilities by organizations which are considered to be exempt from planning fees as outlined in Part 12, Article 157 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as amended, with the exception of some specified developments, will be granted a 100% reduction in development contributions.

11.1.4 **‘MEANINGFUL USE’ POLICY FOR DERELICT OR VACANT SITES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Planning and Integrated Development, dated 15th December 2025 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council report on whether a ‘meaningful use’ policy is to be applied to derelict or vacant sites in the City Centre and if the vacant site on Sullivan's Quay can be utilized as part of such a policy, a public park could be an option at this location.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. Collins 25/640)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Cork City Development Plan encourages appropriate meanwhile uses for vacant commercial buildings and sites. However, Cork City Council does not have the power to compel owners of Vacant and Derelict Sites in private ownership to engage in meanwhile use. Owners of such sites are encouraged to return the site to use through the powers bestowed by the Derelict Site Act 1990 and the Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT). The vacant site at Sullivans Quay is included on the Cork City RZLT map, resulting in annual levies which are collected by Revenue until such time as the site is returned to use.

11.1.5 **ADDITIONAL POWERS TO RESTORE DERELICT BUILDINGS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Planning and Integrated Development, dated 15th December 2025 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council supports the addition of compulsory sales orders and compulsory rental orders to the statutory powers available to local authorities, which would assist in strengthening progress restoring derelict buildings to active use, will write to the Government, including the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, to request these additional powers, will publish the derelict sites register in GIS map format online, will engage with dereliction campaigners Frank O’Connor and Jude Sherry to cross reference their register of derelict properties with its own derelict sites register, will report on how complete its derelict sites register is relative to Frank O’Connor and Jude Sherry’s register, will account for any discrepancies, will categorise the complete derelict sites register by the most prominent, high-priority sites, will detail actions and timelines to return these buildings to use, and will estimate how many people these buildings could house.’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Kamegni 25/651)

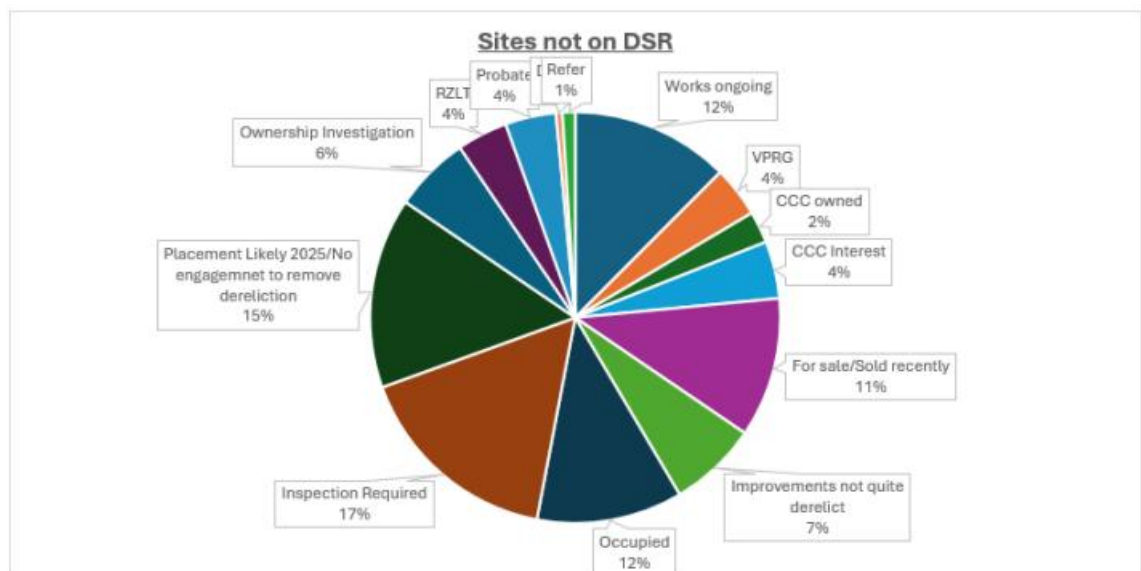
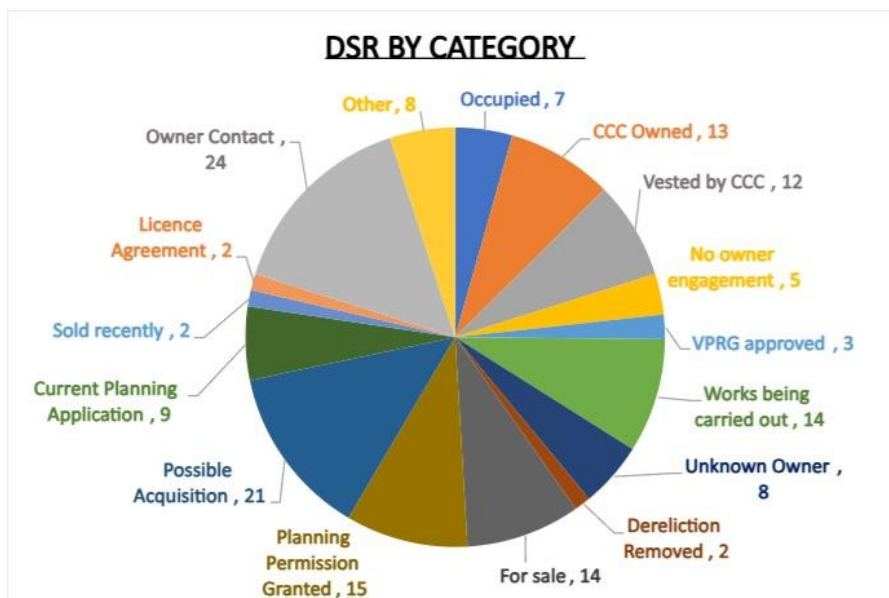
The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council employs a robust and wide-ranging approach to identify and resolve dereliction. A dedicated team of technicians and administrative staff investigate sites, conduct inspections, contact owners of potentially derelict sites to progress sites towards resolution or if required, formal placement on the register. Derelict property owners are frequently contacted to outline their options for returning a property to use, while those who fail to remove dereliction are subject to levies at 7% of the property value plus interest on unpaid levies. Cork City Council also utilises the powers of the Derelict Site Act 1990 including its power of acquisition. A variety of return to use methods are applied, including provision of grants and owner engagement with owner action typically the fastest return to use option.

The Derelict Sites register is currently available online at <https://www.corkcity.ie/media/0mslbrne/211125-derelict-sites-register.pdf>. The Department of Housing are currently collating national data with a view to providing this information in GIS format online.

The Local Authority is the prescribed body to determine if a site is derelict and in doing so has regard to many factors including owner engagement. Any person can report a site that they consider may be derelict on the Cork City Council website –

<https://corkcity.submit.com/show/117>

All sites are reviewed on a regular basis and possible actions leading to a removal of dereliction identified. Prioritization takes place as a matter of normal process. There are over 380 sites being investigated for potential placement on the register, of which 158 are currently on the register. The first chart below outlines the status of each site currently on the register, while the second outlines the status of each site under investigation, with monthly reviews and progression of each site.



12. **HOUSING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE / COISTE BEARTAIS STRAITÉISIGH - TITHÍOCHT – 16th DECEMBER 2025**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 16th December 2025.

12.1 **HOUSING PROGRESS REPORT**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Housing Progress report for October 2025.

12.2 **MOTIONS**

12.2.1 **HOMELESS MEMBERS OF THE TRAVELLER COMMUNITY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Acting Director of Services, Housing, dated 17th October 2025 on the following motion held in Committee:-

‘That Cork City Council will allow members of the Traveller community to register as homeless without requiring to remain in hotel or other emergency accommodation.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 25/514)

The report of the Acting Director of Services stated that Section 2 of the 1988 Housing Act states the following:

Homeless persons for the purposes of this Act.

A person shall be regarded by a housing authority as being homeless for the purposes of this Act if—

(a) there is no accommodation available which, in the opinion of the authority, he, together with any other person who normally resides with him or who might reasonably be expected to reside with him, can reasonably occupy or remain in occupation of, or

(b) he is living in a hospital, county home, night shelter or other such institution, and is so living because he has no accommodation of the kind referred to in paragraph (a),

and he is, in the opinion of the authority, unable to provide accommodation from his own resources.

Given that this is the legislation that Cork City Council applies to all presentations to the City Council’s Homeless Office, if someone can continue to reside in their current accommodation, then they would not be considered homeless.

An Chomhairle further agreed to refer the motion back to the Housing Strategic Policy Committee for further consideration.

12.2.2 **SPEED UP ALLOCATIONS FOR TURN KEY UNITS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Acting Director of Services, Housing, dated 12th December 2025 on the following motion referred back to the Committee:-

‘That this Council will examine a policy where potential tenants would sign an insurance waiver on pre-installed fixtures in a home to take a social tenancy as is in order to speed up allocations for those on the list who wish to avail of turn key units.’

(Proposer: Cllr. P. Horgan 25/349)

The report of the Acting Director of Services stated that Cork City Council has a legal requirement to ensure all properties made available for allocation meet the Housing (Standards for Rental Housing) Regulations 2019. Upon a property becoming vacant, the Housing Directorate undertakes such works as may be necessary to ensure the property complies with the regulations. It is then returned for allocation.

The Housing Directorate sought advice from the Office of Legal Affairs to establish if it is possible for potential tenants to sign a waiver in regard to aspects of the Regulations.

The legal advice received is as follows:

“The Housing (Standards for Rented Housing) Regulations 2019 (S.I. No. 137 of 2019) (“the 2019 Regulations”) impose a statutory obligation on Landlords (including Local Authorities) of rented properties to ensure that the property meets certain minimum standards, as set out in the Regulations. Compliance is mandatory.

A waiver by a tenant will not negate the Council’s statutory obligations and it cannot be relied on. As a statutory body, a Local Authority must act within the powers and duties conferred on it by legislation; to do otherwise is ultra vires (i.e. beyond the scope of the powers granted to it by law) and could expose the Authority to adverse consequences such as having to defend legal proceedings taken by tenants who suffer injury, loss or damage as a result of a Local Authority’s failure to ensure that the minimum standards imposed by the Regulations have been met.

Cork City Council cannot lawfully rely on a waiver from a tenant and proceed with the letting of a property that fails to meet the Regulations.”

13. **CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE – 9th DECEMBER 2025**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Climate Action Committee from its meeting held, 9th December 2025.

14. **FINANCE & ESTIMATES COMMITTEE – 5th JANUARY 2026**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Finance & Estimates Committee from its meeting held, 5th January 2026.

14.1 **FINANCE RELATED REPORTS**

14.1.1 **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO END OF NOVEMBER 2025**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the Financial Statements to the end of November 2025.

15. **CORRESPONDENCE**

An Chomhairle noted correspondence received.

16. **CONFERENCE/SEMINAR SUMMARIES**

An Chomhairle noted summaries of conferences/seminars attended as follows:-

- Comhairleoir T. Shannon as part of the Cork City Council Delegation trip to San Francisco, USA, 2nd - 9th March 2025.
- Comhairleoir T. Shannon as part of the VISIT Cork Delegation trip to Ottawa, Montreal and Toronto, Canada, 28th September - 4th October 2025.
- Comhairleoir S. Martin at the AILG/Maynooth University – Planning System in Ireland Joint Programme, held at Maynooth, Co. Kildare, 15th November 2025.
- Comhairleoir J. Maher as part of the technical visit to London – Public Realm, 25th - 27th November 2025.
- Comhairleoir K. McCarthy as part of the Cork City Council Delegation visit to Shanghai, China, 15th - 22nd November 2025.

17. **SECTION 141 REPORTS**

None received.

18. **CONFERENCES/SEMINARS**

18.1 **NATIONAL HEALTHY CITIES MEETING**

An Chomhairle considered and retrospectively approved the travel of Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald to the National Healthy Cities Meeting in Carlow on 7th November 2025.

18.2 **MCGILL SUMMER SCHOOL**

An Chomhairle considered and retrospectively approved the travel of Comhairleoir T. Shannon to Co. Donegal for the McGill Summer School, from 18th - 20th July 2024.

19. **TRAINING**

19.1 **LAMA AND AILG CONFERENCES AND TRAINING**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Shannon, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh, An Chomhairle considered and approved attendance by Elected Members at all LAMA and AILG conferences and training during 2026.

20. **MOTIONS REFERRED TO COMMITTEES**

An Chomhairle noted the motions on Appendix 1 attached, that have been referred to the relevant Committees as determined by the Meetings Administrator, due notice of which has been given.

21. **MOTIONS**

21.1 **MERCOSUR TRADE DEAL**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘We the members of Cork City Council are asking all our MEPs and TDs to vote against the Mercosur trade deal. This deal has the potential to decimate the Irish beef industry through cheap and inferior imports from South American countries. The commitment to not support this deal was given in last year's Dáil Election and the European Elections. We are asking for these election promises to be upheld.’

(Proposer: Cllr. N. O’Flynn 25/612)

21.2 **OCCUPIED TERRITORIES BILL**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council opposes the exclusion of trade in services in the Occupied Territories Bill and writes to the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance, Simon Harris, and the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Helen McEntee, calling on them to include a ban on trade in services in the Government's proposed Occupied Territories Bill with immediate effect.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. Collins 26/004)

21.3 **SUPPORT OF AID ORGANISATIONS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That this Council supports Doctors Without Borders, Médecins Sans Frontières and other aid organisations such as Oxfam, Action Against Hunger, Danish Refugee Council, Norwegian Refugee Council, World Vision International, Caritas International and others and condemns the move by Israel to ban vital organisations that are saving lives in the continued human rights abuses being perpetrated by the Israeli State and will write to the Israeli Minister for Diaspora Affairs to notify him of this Council's condemnation.’

(Proposer: Cllr. P. Horgan 26/018)

21.4 **SAFEGUARDING IRISH DEMOCRACY FROM FOREIGN INTERFERENCE**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council calls on the Government to:

1. Introduce a clear and comprehensive suite of laws to prevent and address foreign interference in Irish democratic processes, including elections, referenda and political decision-making;
2. Create specific statutory offences for any person who knowingly enables, facilitates or colludes with a foreign government, foreign state-linked entity, or foreign actor, including non-state organisations or individuals acting on

- behalf of, or aligned with, groups with malign intent, for the purpose of influencing Irish democracy;
3. Provide for effective sanctions, including criminal penalties, financial penalties and disqualification from public office where appropriate;
 4. Strengthen transparency and enforcement, including enhanced disclosure requirements and strengthened investigative and enforcement powers for relevant oversight, regulatory and policing bodies;
 5. Ensure that any such measures are proportionate, evidence-based, and fully consistent with Ireland's obligations under EU law, including the protection of fundamental rights and legitimate democratic participation.'

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boylan 26/023)

On the proposal of Comhairleoir P. Horgan, a proposed amendment to the motion was tabled to read as follows:-

'That Cork City Council calls on the Government to:

1. Introduce a clear and comprehensive suite of laws to prevent and address foreign interference in Irish democratic processes, including elections, referenda and political decision-making; and domestic misinformation and disinformation, especially with AI;
2. Create specific statutory offences for any person who knowingly enables, facilitates or colludes with a foreign government, foreign state-linked entity, or foreign actor, including non-state organisations or individuals acting on behalf of, or aligned with, groups with malign intent, for the purpose of influencing Irish democracy;
3. Provide for effective sanctions, including criminal penalties, financial penalties and disqualification from public office where appropriate;
4. Strengthen transparency and enforcement, including enhanced disclosure requirements and strengthened investigative and enforcement powers for relevant oversight, regulatory and policing bodies;
5. Ensure that any such measures are proportionate, evidence-based, and fully consistent with Ireland's obligations under EU law, including the protection of fundamental rights and legitimate democratic participation.'

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boylan 26/023)

On the proposal of Comhairleoir A. Deasy, seconded by Comhairleoir N. O'Flynn, A vote was called for on the approval of the amendment where there appeared as follows:-

FOR: Comhairleoirí J. Maher, J. Kavanagh, M. McDonnell, O. Moran, T. Fitzgerald, D. Boylan, J. Sheehan, M. Gould, K. Collins, T. Shannon, K. McCarthy, M.R. Desmond, P. Horgan, S. O'Callaghan, F. Kerins, D. Boyle, N. O'Connor, C. Kelleher, J. Lynch, T. Coleman, G. O'Brien, C. O'Connor. (22)

AGAINST: Comhairleoirí N. O'Flynn, A. Deasy. (2)

ABSTAIN: Comhairleoirí B. McCarthy, D. Cahill, H. Kamegni, P. Dineen, F. Dennehy. (5)

As those voting in favour of the amendment were greater than those voting against, An tArdmhéara declared the vote carried, and the amendment to the motion approved.

21.5 **RECENT MILITARY OPERATION IN VENEZUELA**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council write to An Taoiseach Micheál Martin and the Minister for Foreign Affairs Helen McEntee calling on them and the Irish government to strongly condemn the Trump administration’s recent military operation in Venezuela, which resulted in the deaths of numerous people and the capture of Venezuela’s sitting President, Nicolás Maduro and his wife Cilia Flores on the basis that said military operation constituted a clear violation of the basic principles of international law, in particular the prohibition of the use of force against the territorial integrity and political independence of nation states pursuant to Article 2.4 of the United Nations Charter.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. O’Callaghan 26/026)

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Boylan, seconded by Comhairleoir A. Deasy, a vote was called for on the approval of the motion where there appeared as follows:-

FOR: Comhairleoirí J. Maher, J. Kavanagh, M. McDonnell, O. Moran, T. Fitzgerald, D. Boylan, J. Sheehan, M. Gould, K. Collins, B. McCarthy, T. Shannon, K. McCarthy, M.R. Desmond, P. Horgan, S. O’Callaghan, F. Kerins, D. Boyle, N. O’Connor, C. Kelleher, J. Lynch, T. Coleman, G. O’Brien, C. O’Connor. (23)

AGAINST: Comhairleoirí N. O’Flynn, P. Dineen, A. Deasy. (3)

ABSTAIN: Comhairleoirí H. Kamegni, F. Dennehy. (2)

As those voting in favour of the motion were greater than those voting against, An tArdmhéara declared the vote carried, and the motion approved.

21.6 **HEALTH (REGULATION OF TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY) (AMENDMENT) BILL AND SUPPORTS FOR PREGNANT WOMEN**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council welcomes the outcome of the recent Dáil Éireann vote (73-71 on 17 December 2025) to reject the restoration to the Order Paper of the Health (Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy) (Amendment) Bill 2023.

This Bill proposed significant changes to Ireland's abortion laws, including: abortion on request up to fetal viability (typically around 22-24 weeks); abolition of the three-day waiting period; broader grounds for later-term abortions (such as fatal fetal abnormalities likely to lead to death before birth or within one year, or serious risk to the woman's health); and decriminalization of abortion services.

This Motion calls on Cork City Council to write to An Taoiseach, Micheál Martin, expressing concern about the rising number of abortions in Ireland (approximately 49,000 recorded from 2019 to the end of 2024, with numbers increasing annually to a record 10,852 in 2024) and urging the Government to work towards reducing abortion numbers by providing better supports for pregnant women, including financial assistance, housing, and other practical measures, while also actively promoting a positive cultural shift that affirms the clear message that every baby is a cherished and very welcome addition to our country.’

(Proposer: Cllr. A. Deasy 26/039)

On the proposal of Comhairleoir C. Kelleher, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Maher, a vote was called for on the approval of the motion where there appeared as follows:-

FOR: Comhairleoirí N. O’Flynn, T. Shannon, P. Dineen, A. Deasy. (4)

AGAINST: Comhairleoirí J. Maher, J. Kavanagh, M. McDonnell, O. Moran, D. Boylan, J. Sheehan, M. Gould, K. Collins, B. McCarthy, K. McCarthy, M.R. Desmond, P. Horgan, S. O’Callaghan, F. Kerins, D. Boyle, N. O’Connor, C. Kelleher, J. Lynch, T. Coleman, G. O’Brien, C. O’Connor. (21)

ABSTAIN: Comhairleoirí T. Fitzgerald, H. Kamegni, F. Dennehy. (3)

As those voting for the motion were less than those voting against, An tArdmhéara declared the vote and the motion defeated.

21.7 **PALESTINE SOLIDARITY ACTIVISTS**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion:-

‘Eight imprisoned Palestine solidarity activists are currently being held in prison in the UK without bail. The way they’ve been treated is abhorrent. They have been denied some of their most basic rights, including the right to bail and a fair trial. Their communications with family and the outside world have been interfered with, denied and surveilled. They have been denied proper winter clothing and masks for COVID-19 prevention purposes. In protest at these intolerable conditions, they have been on hunger strike for more than 9 weeks and at this point, are near death.

The British state has used every tool at their disposal to try to isolate and break the spirit of the prisoners for Palestine, and now they have shown they do not care one iota if they die on this hunger strike. This council condemns this unacceptable and inhumane treatment of Palestine activists by the UK State and calls for the strikers demands to be met in full:

1. End all censorship
2. Immediate bail – this is vital to save the lives of those on strike
3. The right to a fair trial
4. The proscription of Palestine Action to be overturned
5. Shut down Elbit Systems.’

(Proposer: Cllr. B. McCarthy 26/048)

On the proposal of Comhairleoir B. McCarthy, seconded by Comhairleoir K. Collins, a proposed amendment to the motion was tabled to read as follows:-

‘Eight imprisoned Palestine solidarity activists are currently being held in prison in the UK without bail. The way they’ve been treated is abhorrent. In protest at these intolerable conditions, they have been on hunger strike for more than 9 weeks and at this point, are near death. This Council declares our solidarity with these brave pro-Palestine activists on hunger strike and calls on the British government to listen to their demands and end this inhumane treatment.’

(Proposer: Cllr. B. McCarthy 26/048)

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Shannon, seconded by Comhairleoir K. Collins, A vote was called for on the approval of the amendment where there appeared as follows:-

FOR: Comhairleoirí J. Maher, J. Kavanagh, O. Moran, N. O’Flynn, D. Boylan, M. Gould, K. Collins, B. McCarthy, K. McCarthy, H. Kamegni, P. Horgan, S. O’Callaghan, F. Kerins, D. Boyle, N. O’Connor, J. Lynch, G. O’Brien, C. O’Connor. (18)

AGAINST: Comhairleoirí T. Shannon, A. Deasy. (2)

ABSTAIN: Comhairleoirí M. McDonnell, T. Fitzgerald, J. Sheehan, M.R. Desmond, P. Dineen, F. Dennehy, T. Coleman. (7)

As those voting in favour of the amendment were greater than those voting against, An tArdmhéara declared the vote carried, and the amendment to the motion approved.

21.8 **VITAL MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FOR GAZA**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council commends the work of Irish Charities and Palestine Solidarity Organisations in raising funds for mobile maternity units intended for use in Gaza. The Council expresses its concern that currently this vital medical equipment is being denied entry to Gaza by the Israeli Government. The Council will write to An Taoiseach to express this concern and to request that the Irish Government use all powers at its disposal to ensure that this aid and all other medical aid is granted entry to Gaza as a matter of urgency.’

(Proposer: Cllr. N. O’ Connor 26/055)

This concluded the business of the meeting

ARDMHÉARA
CATHAOIRLEACH